



[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

March 11, 2014

HSZC.org



Please help support Our Temple,
Dharma Study, Resident Student
Program & Our Practice Programs
for the Public.

**Donations are tax
deductible**

Public Practice Schedule

Monday

7:00 am Zazen

7:40 am Morning Chanting Service

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Evening Chanting Service

Tuesday- Friday

6:00 am Zazen

6:40 am Kinhin (walking
meditation)

6:50 am Zazen

7:20 am Chanting Service

7:40 am Soji (brief temple

Sangha e-Newsletter 2014



The Acupuncture Needle of Zazen.

The essential function of all Buddhas,
the functional essence of all ancestors,
is to know without touching things,
and illuminate without encountering objects.
Knowing without touching things,
this knowledge innately subtle.
Illuminating without encountering objects,
this illumination in innately miraculous.
The knowledge innately subtle
has never engaged in discriminative thinking.

cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Chanting Service

Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

Saturday

6:30 am Zazen

7:10 am Chanting Service

7:25 am Soji

8:30 am Drop-in instruction

9:25 am Zazen

10:15 am Dharma Talk

11:00 am Refreshments/Social



The illumination innately miraculous
has never displayed the slightest identification.
Never engaging in discriminative thinking,
this knowledge is rare without match.
Never displaying the most minute identification,
this illumination is complete without grasping.
The water is clear right down to the bottom,
fish lazily swim on.
The sky is vast without end,
birds fly far into the distance.

[Cultivating the Empty Field, the Silent Illumination of Zen Master Hongzhi - Taigen Dan Leighton](#)



HIV Meditation Sitting Group

weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!
Thursdays & Fridays

10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing

Women's Sangha



March 2014 - Daffodils in HSZC Garden, early sign of spring arriving!



Upcoming Events:

Dharma Talks- Rev. Myō Lahey - Mar 29, Apr 5,12,19... @10:15am

(Women only)

weekly meditation group for women
including guest speakers &
socializing
Tuesdays

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Meditation in Recovery

(Men & Women)
weekly meditation group for men &
women in recovery from addiction

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm

Women's Meditation in Recovery

(Women only)
monthly meditation group for
women in recovery from addiction.
First Thursdays

7:15 pm - 8:45 pm

Guest Speaker Saturdays - Mar 22 Shokan Jordan Thorn; April 26 Laura Burges; May 3 Elaine Donlin; June 7 Konin Cardenas

Full Moon Ceremony - Saturday, Apr 12 @ 11am

Sangha Council - TBD

Higan - e Ceremony - Saturday, Mar 29, 2014

Founder's Memorial - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @ 6:40pm

Study Hour - Book of Serenity, we have books to share, we read together, feel free to drop-in - Thursdays @7:30pm

Next Board of Directors' Meeting - Second Wednesdays of the month April 9th @7:30pm You're welcome to attend & observe.

灌仏会Buddha's Birthday Ceremony & Celebration - April 5, 2014

St. Patrick's Day / Irish American Heritage day - March 17th!

Saint Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Known as the "Apostle of Ireland", he is the primary patron saint of the island along with Saints Brigit and Columba. The dates of Patrick's life cannot be fixed with certainty but, on a widespread interpretation, he was active as a missionary in Ireland during the second half of the fifth century. He is generally credited with being the first bishop of Armagh, Primate of Ireland.

When he was about 16, he was captured from his home in Great Britain, and taken as a slave to Ireland, where he lived for six years before escaping and returning to his family. After becoming a cleric, he returned to northern and western Ireland. In later life, he served as an ordained bishop, but little is known about the places where he worked.

By the seventh century, he had already come to be revered as the patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Day is observed on 17 March, the date of his death. It is celebrated inside and outside Ireland as a religious and cultural holiday. In the dioceses of Ireland, it is both a solemnity and a holy day of obligation; it is also a celebration of Ireland itself. (Celebrated quite differently in large part than in the USA, with a great deal of cheer and green colored food and Irish like appearance objects)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Patrick



Words From Our Abbot: Rev Myō Lahey

Sub specie aeternitatis ...When we listen to the rain we are actually listening to it under the aspect of eternity. Even though our usual way of thinking is that, well that it is the temporal phenomenon and sometimes it rains and sometimes it doesn't. The rain stops, the rain starts at some point,

but there's a sense that the sound of the rainfall is as Dogen would say, is inseparable from being.

We're accustomed to dividing things into sentient and insentient or alive and dead, but all of these distinctions that we make are actually under the aspect of eternity. As is our whole life, the whole being, the whole person. And if people have some difficulty with that which is pretty common, it's usually because they can't attach any particular feeling to hearing that whole life, our whole being, every drop of rain is under the aspect of eternity.

And when we can't harness our intellect into service of understanding something like that, we tend to dismiss it. And as far as eternity goes, well usually eternity that's something that <We think> happens after our life is over or something... But each of our lives is, if you like, within the radiance of eternity. Just as is every rain drop.

Valley Streams Zen Sangha Talk - March 3, 2014

Holi - also March 17th (Sanskrit: होली) is a spring festival also known as festival of colours, and sometimes festival of love. It is an ancient Hindu religious festival which has become popular with non-Hindus in many parts of South Asia, as well as people of other communities.



It is primarily observed in India, Nepal, and other regions of the world with significant populations of majority Hindus or people of Indian origin. The festival has, in recent times, spread in parts of Europe and North Americas as a spring celebration of love, frolic and colours.

Holi celebrations start with a Holika bonfire on the night before Holi where people gather, sing and dance. The next morning is free for all carnival of colours, where everyone plays, chases and colours each other with dry powder and coloured water, with some carrying water guns and coloured water-filled balloons for their water fight. Anyone and everyone is fair game, friend or stranger, rich or poor, man or woman, children and elders. The frolic and fight with colours occurs in the open streets, open parks, outside temples and buildings. Groups carry drums and musical instruments, go from place to place, sing and dance. People move and visit family, friends and foes, first



play with colours on each other, laugh and chit-chat, then share Holi delicacies, food and drinks. In the evening, after sobering up, people dress up, visit friends and family.^{[1][9]} It is a national holiday in India.



Holi is celebrated at the approach of vernal equinox, on the Phalguna Purnima (Full Moon). The festival date varies every year, per the Hindu calendar, and typically comes in March, sometimes February in the Gregorian Calendar. The festival signifies the victory of good over evil, the arrival of spring, end of winter, and for many a festive day to meet others, play and laugh, forget and forgive, and repair ruptured relationships.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holi>

****Additional Practice Deepening Opportunities in the Queue****

- We are currently in the process of reserving space to do a **Hartford Street Sangha practice session at Tassajara** July 8th through the 11th.
- A **study period** (similar to a practice period) is planned for roughly a kick off around Sejiki (Late October) through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (Early December).
- Finally please don't forget we have weekly **Study Hour** of traditional Zen text on Thursdays at 7:30pm.

Please [contact us](#) for more details and more details will be communicated in the newsletter in the months ahead.

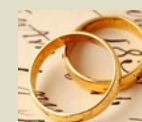





April 1 2014 - Special Event, Robina Court arranged by a long term Sangha Friend. Stay tuned to hszc.org and our Facebook page for details and direction on how to reserve a spot.





Seeking a **LGBTQI, **Buddhist** space for your wedding?**
HSZC & Abbot Rev. Myō Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myō can perform weddings! Please email hszc108@yahoo.com, call us, or a better way yet is to stop in & discuss during our publicly open hours.




Abbot, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey

 Find us on:
facebook





 **Subscribe**
with iTunes

info@hszc.org
415.863.2507

*Please submit stories, reflections, personal news, artwork & photography for future newsletters to
KeiDo at tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com*

May this newsletter find you well & equanimous! __/__

**vertical
response**
A DELUXE COMPANY
Free Email Marketing >>